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The following articles will be added to the list of New and Non-Official Remedies:

Bromural (Knoll & Co.); Elixir Buchu, Juniper & Acetate Potass. P-M. Co. (Pitman-Myers Co.); Tablets Acet-Phenetidin Comp. P-M. Co. (Pitman-Myers Co.); Syrup Cannabis Comp. P-M. Co. (Pitman-Myers Co.); Veroform Antiseptic (Veroform Hygienic Co.); Veroform Germicide (Veroform Hygienic Co.).

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY.

Dr. Jones discussing paper read by Dr. Blue on the pathology of plague:

I would like to supplement what Dr. Blue has said by a few words. Dr. Blue had practically despaired of securing any public interest in this subject, which we would think one of the most vital to any one living in San Francisco, when, about two weeks ago, he in company with a committee of the State Society had a joint session with the directors of the Merchants' Association and the Merchants' Exchange. As a result of that meeting, the fear of the wrath of God was put into the hearts of the Front street merchants, and they got very busy. They called meetings and had the Mayor appoint a committee of twenty-five, and to-day such men as Mr. Moore of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Symmes, Mr. Homer King, and some eight or ten or fifteen other prominent business men are devoting practically all of their time to this work. Some of them are working eighteen and twenty hours a day, trying to put before the public the facts in regard to the plague situation in San Francisco. I was startled yesterday when Mr. Moore, with whom I have been to a number of these meetings, said to me, "What are you doctors doing?"

I said, "We have had a number of papers on the plague—and I guess that is all." He said, "Why do you not do exactly what we merchants are doing and put the facts before you patients, as we do before our employees? When I take the trouble to go down and call together 250 employees and tell them exactly the situation, and tell them that this city is apt to be quarantined, why do not the doctors make efforts of the same kind?"

Then I began to think what had been done and how many physicians have said anything to more than one or two of their patients in regard to the plague situation in San Francisco to-day. How many physicians know whether the garbage men empty the garbage into their wagons or into a gunny sack on the back porch? How many of our own profession know whether the housewife, his own or the one in the house in which he lives or the hotelkeeper, keeps garbage in a metal can tightly covered? These are very lowly, humble, dirty questions, but are the vital questions in the whole plague situation. Where the rat cannot get food the rat will not go, and if he cannot get food on the back porch he is not going there. If there is no food in the cellar he will not go there. If he cannot get food anywhere around the house he will take the poisoned food or go into the traps. It is distinctly up to us to take this question up with all our patients and every person with whom we come in contact, and teach these people that the rat food must

be kept away from the rat. If we do otherwise we are not doing our duty. In the first place, in our own house, and secondly in the house of every one with whom we come in contact. These citizens have published a circular and have printed cards giving in a few words the plague conditions here to-day and the necessary things to be done in regard to the care of garbage and its disposal, with regard to the killing of rats, giving the address and telephone number of the division stations of the Marine Hospital Service in this city. I would earnestly request every one to get a supply of these circulars and cards and see that every one of our patients knows within the next few days that the plague exists and that nearly 2 per cent of the rats caught are plague-infected rats. Within a week a rat was found and combed carefully and a flea from him caught and the plague bacillus demonstrated in the flea. If the conditions existing in this city to-day maintain for sixty days, this city will be quarantined within four months, and if we do not teach our patients and the people with whom we come in contact, these facts, we cannot expect to eradicate these conditions. How can we ask busy merchants to teach their employees if we do not teach our patients?

Dr. Pischel: Dr. Jones has told us that we must look out for the garbage man and that the housewives must see that the garbage man removes the garbage properly. Most housewives are afraid to say anything to the garbage man, and have a very good reason, because the garbage man simply does not come any more if they do speak to him. It is of great importance that the housewife should know that the garbage man has to come and I would like to hear what the law is in this regard. How can the housewife help herself when the garbage man is not inclined to come any more after he has been spoken to?

Mr. Payot: As the doctor has said, the housewife is afraid to complain to the garbage man. We are now trying to have the city take care of the collection and disposal of the garbage. We do not know how far we can succeed in this. It is a question of money and you all know the condition of the municipal treasury. It is intimated that the collection and disposal of garbage would cost about \$600,000 a year. The only way to bring this about would be by a charter amendment. We did not think of this at the last election. We will not be able to relieve the householder of the expense, but we can endeavor to see that garbage is properly collected.

Dr. Hunkin: I am sorry to hear one medical man so pessimistic with regard to the work of the profession. The probabilities are that most of the medical men have been doing their duties during the last five or six years, and particularly during the last six months. Attention has been called to the relation of the housewife to the garbage man, and it has been found that when she antagonizes the garbage man he does not come back. That is the great trouble I have found when talking to families with regard to ridding the city of rats. When I have spoken to the householders upon this plague question, they always retaliate by quoting statements from the Chronicle, saying that there is no plague and never has been any plague in this city. If we are to do what we wish to do, we must catch that rat, the Chronicle.

Dr. Blue, closing discussion: We make no distinction between rats and mice. We do not find many infected mice because they do not migrate. If the rats come into a house, the flea from the rat will live on the mouse and the mice can thereby become infected. In regard to cats and dogs, I would say that cats and dogs as pets in plague times are dangerous, but if kept on the outside, and if good rat catchers, they are probably valuable. Do

not let them come into the house or let children play with them. As to chickens, they ought to be ruled out of the city unless they can be kept in rat-proof quarters and fed there. It is impossible to insist that the restaurants give up their chickens because they must have a large number on hand all the time.

(Dr. Snow read a paper on dairies and milk supply, well illustrated by lantern slides of photographs of dairies, clean and otherwise, mostly "otherwise.")

Dr. Kibbe: I think the subject was very well covered except one point, and that is the making of this crusade a permanent one. At present it would seem that the certification should be issued by the County Medical Society on the recommendation of a joint committee established on a permanent basis and composed of members of the County Medical Society, as well as of members of a civic association organized to improve the city milk supply. Unless we can form a permanent certifying committee, the labor expended on the present agitation will be of no lasting avail. I feel it never can be permanent until we have a certifying body which is responsible and which is not changed from year to year. With the present method of annual appointment of the whole committee on milk, different people may come in with indifferent attitudes. This point of the stability and permanence of the milk commission ought to be impressed upon the County Medical Society.

Dr. Gunn: Undoubtedly this milk question is a very important one at the present time. Every one will realize that some of the dairies really should not be allowed to turn their milk into San Francisco. At the same time there are dairies which are supplying good milk. I believe that this movement started by the California Club will eventually give San Francisco good milk. The solution of some of the problems involved will be brought about by slight changes in existing ordinances, and with these changes we will be able to provide good milk, providing the community continue to support the movement. The dairies spoken of by Dr. Snow are all out of this county, but I daresay if you go to many of the dairies in this county, you will find conditions even worse than any shown here to-night, in the general sanitary condition and character. The Health Office has met with many difficulties. We have made many arrests and have had the courts full of cases. In the month of November all the cases were dismissed. In December there were a few convictions, and last month a large number of convictions. To-day the milk supply is better than for a considerable time past. One of the most important things is to provide certified milk, then the people will know where they can get good milk, and it will help raise the standard of other dairies.

Dr. Spalding: There seems to be a misunderstanding about the work done by the County Medical Society. I doubt if many of the members know it, but there has been a milk commission in existence for nearly four years. It was more than three years ago that a milk commission was appointed by the County Medical Society to obtain a small amount of really good milk, which could be recommended by physicians for babies. That commission has had its ups and downs. It has done good work, but it has met with earthquakes and certain other misfortunes which have made it an irregular body. It is a risky thing to appoint a milk commission from a body of this kind unless the whole medical society will stand back of it. We started out three years ago and obtained two dairies, which promised to do this work. One man put \$100,000 into his dairy and you saw the pictures of it to-night, and that man lost his \$100,000. He lost it partly because the County Medical Society did not back him up. We told that man that if he would

turn out the milk as we wanted it every month, that we would notify every member of what he was doing. He went ahead on the supposition that every one would be notified, and that there would be a large demand for the services of these two dairies where certified milk could be had. Every member of this society was notified each month, and should have recommended that man's dairy but evidently many did not. Now we are going to start out again, and the milk commission of this society is going to work to find a better class of dairymen and beg these men to put a little more cleanliness, and a little more work and a little more money into their dairies, and we are going to promise these men again that the County Medical Society is going to back them up. Perhaps the dairyman who does as we ask him is going to ask us for a guarantee that he will be assured of a certain number of customers, and if we ask you to sign such a guarantee saying that the milk will be sold at 15 cents per quart, I hope that you will not say that you cannot pay that much. Certified milk for babies means a reduction in infant mortality, but unless you back up the dairyman you cannot expect him to put his money into it in the face of the failures of the past. We will shortly send circulars around asking members for a list of prospective customers so as to find out the probabilities of your backing us up, and we want it known that every one of the members of this society must endeavor to get customers for any dairyman that we can get to produce certified milk. We are also going to try to get the California Club to back us up. If we can get the promises of 2,000 quarts per month we can get two or three dairies to put money into the thing so that we can get good milk.

Dr. Snow, closing discussion: I had one purpose above any other in presenting this matter tonight, and that was to show you the actual facts as they exist up and down this valley with regard to a large number of the milk producers. I think that as a matter of business organization our milk supplies have been badly mismanaged. There is no city in this part of the state except San Francisco, which is big enough to put the screws on the dairymen and make them do anything. If Palo Alto or San Jose decided to have pure milk and tried to enforce adequate regulations, the dairymen would care very little as they can sell their milk in San Francisco. But if San Francisco says to the dairymen, "We will not admit any milk into San Francisco which is not clean," then the dairymen are going to have no place to sell the bulk of their milk. San Francisco must begin this question. She might say to the Santa Clara and San Mateo dairymen, "By the first of next June you must have such and such specified conditions if you wish to continue sending milk here." When she has these counties conforming to these regulations, she can begin with Marin county and tell them that the same thing must be compassed by August 1st, and then give the communities across the bay until October 1st to get in line. If San Francisco constitutes certain standards, then Palo Alto may do the same. Examinations of the fat content and bacterial-counts are not going to improve conditions very much. You must have your inspectors in the field. I think that it is entirely possible to make this problem a co-operative affair and make the inspector a county officer. We ought to protect ourselves and protect our inspectors.

COOPER COLLEGE SCIENCE CLUB.

Dr. Hewlett reported the following cases: The first history which I wish to report is that of an old veteran who was examined at the medical clinic on January 3d, 1908. He complained of stomach trouble. His past history was unimportant except for a syphilitic infection about twenty years ago.